

Testimony

I strongly appose SB 1076.

Section 32 is exceptionally disturbing and potentially illegal:

Summary of Section 32 - This section is essentially mandatory registration of ALL firearms! Not just semi auto sporting rifles! Everything from your grandpas .22 single shot rifle, to single shot shotguns and everything else. Failure to register will be a class D felony! You will need to register each firearm with a background check and thumb print every year for a yet un-disclosed fee. If you are late on re-registering - you have to turn in that firearm or the police will come and confiscate it.

This is a slippery slope and will cause CT citizens to be instant felons for possessing currently legal personal property. My grandfathers' rifle hanging over the fireplace will become illegal. The bill describes confiscation as a result of not complying. This isn't just about firearms – it's about property rights and civil rights

The registration process will be an economic nightmare for CT. Where will CT get the funds to enforce it? The DPS is already overwhelmed with over 29,000 background checks in December and 31,800 in January. How will they keep up with registering / background checks for the initial 2,000,000 plus firearms people legally currently own in CT? All firearms purchases through a dealer in CT is already on file via the DPS-3 form

No additional registration is needed

Another part of the economic nightmare will be the lawsuits against the state should this bill move forward – just see what is happening in NY

As far as adding to the assault weapons ban - Connecticut already has one of the most restrictive “so called” assault weapons bans in the US (“so called” because the definition of an assault rifle if the capability of firing full auto/machine gun and the ones targeted by this bill does not meet this criteria).

Magazine Capacity – Modern semiautomatic firearms accept standard capacity magazines. That means the firearm was designed around a certain magazine capacity. Standard capacity magazines for most modern rifles are 20 & 30 rounds. Standard capacity magazines for most modern pistols are 12-19 rounds. Limited capacity magazines (10 rounds or less) have no place in and mid to full sized handgun or rifle. There are many modern firearms that do not have limited magazines available.

The 1994 ban on magazines proved to have no effect on crime.

SB1076 requirement of limiting magazines and making possession of standard magazine illegal is another civil & property rights issue. Making possession of a currently legal metal or plastic box with a spring illegal is just wrong. There has to be a provision to grandfather currently

owned property without cost to the owner

Connecticut already has one of the most restrictive hand gun laws as well. You can't even purchase a handgun in CT without a state issued permit. You need to go through an extensive and expensive process which takes months and federal background checks to complete. I am a firearms safety instructor and am well versed on this topic. So you already can't exercise your basic civil right to arm yourself in CT without a permission slip from the state.

In closing – I am VERY disappointed the CT legislature and Gov. Malloy for exploiting the death of children to further their anti civil rights agenda. There are millions of single issue voter that will be watching closely and voting accordingly...

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